UNITED EVANGELICAL

TWICE A MONTH

Action

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VOICE OF EVANGELICAL CHRISTIANITY IN AMERICA

AUGUST 15, 1956

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THE CINCINNATI BIBLE SEMINARY LIBRARY

All Oklahoma Courtrooms Are to Receive Bibles (p. 2). Thanks to Billy Graham!

OFFICIAL NAE ORGAN

Readers Say—

Liquor Diplomacy Again

To the Editor:

Thanks for that editorial on "Vodka Diplomacy," (*Action*, August 1). You cannot write too emphatically on this subject.

Buried in the State Department Appropriations Bill passed recently by the House of Representatives was a $700,000 item entitled "Representation Allowance." This is the fund into which the State Department and United States diplomats dip to wine the natives. Congressmen call it a "whiskey allowance" and have estimated that about $5,000 goes to buy flowers and wreaths. The remainder is booze money.

But the Senate Appropriations Committee would have no part of a paltry $700,000 liquor fund. The Committee promptly boosted it to $1,000,000, the amount the Department had asked for originally. The new figure is more than double the $475,000 allowed in 1954.

On May 25th the Senate adopted the bill with nary a voice raised to protest the liquor item. The measure now awaits final action by House and Senate conferees.

Speaking before the 44th Annual Meeting of the US Chamber of Commerce on April 30, 1956, twenty-five days before the Senate approved the $1,000,000 booze fund, Billy Graham said:

"And in my travels around the world, if it would not embarrass the United States, I could stand here and tell you illustration after illustration as to why some of the countries have tension toward the United States today. It involves personality clashes, and it involves individual problems. And until we get human nature redirected—I can tell you about one country. I was burned up! We have an American diplomatic official in one country that threw a party a few weeks ago. He got dog-drunk. His wife was drunk. They made a spectacle in this Far Eastern country. And American relations couldn't be lower. And we, as taxpayers, paid the bill."

F. G. ENGSTROM

New York City

Used Stamps

To the Editor:

I eat so many good meals from the pages of *Action* magazine. While I feast many perish with hunger. Time is running out and yet all over the world men wait for the saving Gospel.

I am a disabled missionary trying to help the native workers on different mission fields under different Boards. I collect used stamps and sell them to carry on. Your readers could be a source of blessing by supplying stamps. Would they care to help?

C. A. NICOLA

Addison, Pa.

Broadcasting

To the Editor:

Glenwood Blackmore's article on "Shall the NCC Control Religious Broadcasting?" (*Action*, July 1) is very splendid. It gives evangelical broadcasters just the information they need. Thank you for it. We want 1,000 reprints for distribution in this area.

H. H. SAVAGE

Pontiac, Mich.

[EDITOR'S NOTE: Our readers will be interested in knowing that over 50,000 reprints of this article have already been requested and that requests are still coming in.]

"A Positive Belief"

To the Editor:

Thank God for the unknown blessed soul who subscribed to *United Evangelical Action* for my husband and I! Now, we can see and read your scandal sheet when it comes out, and be prepared to counteract the trash which you print therein!

We are Congregationalists. Amen! It was also our privilege to attend the General Council meeting of the Congregational Churches in Omaha, Nebraska, last June (see p. 8). Whoever reported for your paper (and I assume it must have been you, so that you could write first hand for your editorial) didn't even know enough about Congregationalism to correctly complete the first sentence in the editorial, "Growing Super-Church" (*Action*, July 15). We are not a *Church*. We are *Churches*.

Along with the *Sunday School Times*, *United Evangelical Action* is about the most uninformed publication of religious news that I know of . . . . and I read them all. What a pity that the space isn't used to show man a practical way to live with his neighbors and his God in the world; rather than all this "saved" and self-satisfied Christianity which you preach.

My own church and my own beliefs are very precious to me . . . . and I try to live each day, with God's help, in following Christ and the good news he brought to the world. All Congregationalists are doing the same, following Christ as they are enlightened by the Bible. What a wonderful fellowship we have! Ours is also a "positive" belief, while from what I can detect in your publications and also from most of these "evangelicals," yours is a "negative" attitude . . . . just "against" everyone and everything that doesn't do or believe as you think they should.

If *United Evangelical Action* is the "voice of evangelical Christianity in America," then it has a "frog in its throat" and is just about to croak!

Print this—if you dare! I'll be watching!

BETTY R. ROLLER

Minneapolis, Minn.

FRONT COVER—Perhaps the most significant development during the recent Billy Graham Crusade in Oklahoma City was the action of State legislators and judges in literally putting a Bible in every Oklahoma courtroom. The action originated from a message by Billy Graham delivered to State employees at the Capitol. Dr. Graham presented the Bibles to judges who in turn placed the Word of God in their courtrooms.

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Action

United Evangelical Action

An Interdenominational Journal of News and Opinion with a Program for United Action

JAMES DE FOREST MURCH
Editor

VERDA BLOOMHUFF
Office Editor

NAE STATEMENT OF FAITH

1. **We believe the Bible to be the inspired, the only infallible, authoritative word of God.**
2. **We believe that there is one God, eternally existent in three persons, Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**
3. **We believe in the deity of our Lord Jesus Christ, in His virgin birth, in His sinless life, in His miracles, in His vicarious and atoning death through His shed blood, in His bodily resurrection, in His ascension to the right hand of the Father, and in His personal return in power and glory.**
4. **We believe that for the salvation of lost and sinful man regeneration by the Holy Spirit is absolutely essential.**
5. **We believe in the present ministry of the Holy Spirit by whose indwelling the Christian is enabled to live a godly life.**
6. **We believe in the resurrection of both the saved and the lost; they that are saved unto the resurrection of life and they that are lost unto the resurrection of damnation.**
7. **We believe in the spiritual unity of believers in our Lord Jesus Christ.**

United Evangelical Action is published twice a month at Newton, Kansas by the National Association of Evangelicals.

Advertising space rates on request.

Subscription price in U.S.A. and possessions, six months, $1.00; one year, $2.00, three years, $5.00. Foreign subscriptions, $2.00 per year in Canada and nations of the Pan-American Union; other countries, $3.00. No receipts mailed unless requested.

Entered as second-class matter at the post office at Newton, Kansas under the act of March 3, 1879.

All editorials, sermons and articles appearing in United Evangelical Action represent the personal views of the authors. They do not necessarily reflect the policies of the National Association of Evangelicals, of its constituent groups, or the convictions of their individual members.

Executive, Editorial and News offices, United Evangelical Action, 111 E. Fourth St., Cincinnati 2, Ohio. Telephone MAin 1-0230.

Circulation and Subscription offices, United Evangelical Action, 108 N. Main St., Wheaton, Ill. Telephone WHeaton 8-7110.

Advertising office, United Evangelical Action, 111 E. Fourth Street, Cincinnati 2, Ohio. Telephone MAin 1-0230.

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Vol. XV No. 12

Newton, Kansas August 15, 1956

Printed in the U.S.A.

"Ecumenicity" And Church Regimentation

ALBERT J. LINDSEY

Pastor First Presbyterian Church, Tacoma, Washington

Isaiah 1:2-18

PERHAPS never has there been within the church more talk about "unity in Christ" than in our present era and yet seldom has there been a situation fraught with more misunderstanding, confusion and even danger. Involved in the present wave of publicized "ecumenicity" lies a growing problem for evangelicals.

To put it briefly, this growing problem is "ecclesiasticism." Ecclesiasticism is the strong attachment to the forms, usage and privileges of the church. Such can be both good and bad as history has vividly demonstrated. Whether it is good for today or not remains to be seen. There are those, however, who are seriously questioning whether in its present state it is the basis of that which is good.

What are the facts of the current church picture in our land? Church government, like our national government, has greatly increased in size, cost, centralization and power. In the church, as in the national government, has come increased regimentation. Each denomination is becoming more and more of a law unto itself, though its leaders talk ecumenicity and by their outward affiliations with the National and World Council of Churches give to the world the impression that all are "one in Christ."

It seems true that in most denominations currently there is a measure of peace and prosperity, as in our national government, for which we can all be glad. However there may be some question as to whether it is a "peace at any price." In some denominations they are now expressing their concern over this and admitting that the present unity is more or less of "an administrative achievement." One church leader expressed it quite honestly in these words: "Those who experienced the last generation of schism do not disdain unity because it is fostered administratively." This leader, however, recognizes the danger and goes on to say, "But this unity is nevertheless limited because it is a product of institutional, not theological, thinking. It is good; but its critical shortcoming is precisely that it requires that theological discussion be kept at a minimum to avoid risk of its breakdown. Lacking real theological vigor, our church's fear that its structural unity might go to pieces on a renewal of old strifes, may well be justified."

This leads us, therefore, to ask many of our denominations, is our boasted unity governmental or doctrinal? Is it "goose-stepping" under strong, ecclesiastical directives or is it marching to the heartbeat of a blood-bought gospel?

The great host within the established churches seem unconscious of these conditions. It reminds us of the words of the prophet Isaiah (Isa. 1:3). "The ox knoweth his owner, and the ass his master's crib: but Israel doth not know, my people doth not consider." You will observe here that the ox and ass are probably selected as the least intelligent of domesticated animals and yet even they recognize their owner or master; but instructed and enlightened Israel, recipient of so many mercies and with all their golden opportunities for blessings did not recognize their God, nor understand their true situation. They did not acknowledge their Master and Owner, paid Him no respect and were without understanding. In other words, They did not know how to evaluate, they did not discern their direction. What a sad and tragic picture of the Chosen People. But what is more tragic is that such a condition should exist among the professing people of God today. The church masses are all too willing to "take things for granted" and are slow to feel that there can be anything wrong within their Israel.

The usual alibi for modern trends is often expressed in such language as, "Don't you understand we are living in a new era? We are evolving from a lower to a higher level. This is the new order and is for a better world." Thus we are asked to support certain institutions and philosophies which on the surface seem to have merit, but which may in the final analysis be detrimental and damaging to our Christian faith.

It seems apparent to discerning minds that we have in the religious picture on the one hand, a great host of cults and "isms" that Satan is cleverly using to disrupt and confuse the faith of men and women, and on the other hand, the established church in its ecclesiastical leadership continuing to move more and more to the "left," toward a more "liberal" Christianity and a co-partnership with modern socialism. This liberal church philosophy, which sounds very good to many, involves a growing enthusiasm for the United Nations, the UNESCO, big government, increasing union strength, socialism in various forms and increased humanitarianism. This could well mean that the world has cleverly enlisted the support of the church politically and is leading it quietly, subtly, but surely away from the old-fashioned Gospel as revealed in God's Word. This broad-churchism, which many believe is fraught with great danger and tied in with ecclesiasticism is the growing problem of the hour for the Christian faith. The church in this respect certainly is drifting in a very rapid current toward Rome.

Now just as our nation is being cleverly led slowly but surely from the old American principles of individualism, private enterprise and democracy, into a new style of socialism, so our church leaders are step by step leading Christian people away from the great fundamentals of the faith. You ask, how they are doing this. The answer, by clever *regimentation.* This regimentation which comes from the leadership expresses itself in a combination of forces. We may not all agree as to the importance of these different channels, but nevertheless they combine to achieve the desired results. May I illustrate?

First of all, there is the enforced use of liberal denominational publications. These are materials for various groups within the church whether it be in the Sunday or Church School, the youth groups, women and men's organizations. They are pedagogically, typographically and professionally of

the highest type, cleverly serving their purpose. The peril lies in the omission of sound doctrine and the subtle indoctrination toward "another gospel." Some would include in this the new edition of the Revised Standard Version of the Bible and its enforced usage in various denominations.

Secondly, there is the increased forced regimentation in benevolent giving. While it has always been hoped that churches would support their own denominational enterprises, yet large sums, by virtue of the freedom given to the local church, have been given to help independent and thoroughly evangelical missionary enterprises. Churches are now warned to give only to ecclesiastically approved benevolences. Now this may sound like strong language, but nevertheless it is true, that in some cases to carry out and enforce these ecclesiastical policies there has been an increasing amount of centralized power directing such regimentation even to the "rolling of heads" of the so-called "obstructionists." This is a policy which syndicated crime has followed across the years, but that it should be brought over into the ecclesiastical realm is indeed to be deplored.

On the other hand the skirts of independency are far from clean. While undenominational agencies grow in numbers and strength and in many respects perform a great spiritual ministry, yet there has developed in much of their program a bitterness toward denominationalim. Too often we find them using organizations such as Bible conferences and Bible institutes as sounding boards to denounce the established churches. This is not only far removed from the love of Christ but more often than not, "biting the very hand that helps to feed them." Certainly a large part of the support of these institutions comes from denominational sources, which situation denominational leaders resent. Independent groups could do well to demonstrate true Christian tolerance and love to their denominational brethren. If a thing is of God then certainly it should not be denounced or attacked. Let us recognize that God has mightily used both denominations and independent groups. Obviously each has its ministry and place to fill. Should there not then be a mutual spirit of respect and cooperation?

Likewise neo-orthodoxy has certainly made a major contribution to our unfortunate situation. While it has increased interest in the Bible, yet it has opened the way for loose and individual interpretations which make it easy to eliminate the old doctrinal positions. It is noticeable that in various issues when the ecclesiastical leaders want a change they argue there is nothing in theology that will forbid this change, but they are careful not to be specific and state the Scripture. Neo-orthodoxy perhaps more than anything else has broken down the walls that make the Word of God the final rule of our faith and practice. If anything stands forth in Protestantism it is the fact that our faith rests upon the literal Word of God. Anything less is a very flimsy, uncertain foundation and will eventually need to be bolstered up by an ecclesiasticism, such as Rome, that will regiment its people into a ritualism and dogma to its own liking. Again we emphasize, our authority dare not be anything less than the Word of God. Never forget that the thing which made Protestantism different and unique in the days of our forefathers was the fact that they held tenaciously to the inspired Word of God.

The question is being asked today, Do we have religious freedom? The world of course would at once say positively "yes" and yet when we go behind the scenes to observe what has taken place in the last few years we cannot help but admit that it is slowly but surely taken away. We do not possess the religious freedom that the nation possessed fifty years ago. More and more channels are being closed to intelligent religious discussion and dissemination of facts about religion behind a smokescreen of supposed tolerance and broad-mindedness and a false profession of religious freedom. For instance, the reasons for being an evangelical Christian cannot be stated with frankness and freedom in the press, on the radio, television and in public places. There seems to be a vocabulary of platitudes that certain people have prepared who in many cases make no profession of true Christianity. You either use these platitudes or you are silenced. If permitted to state your beliefs, you are smeared as a bigot or a fanatic.

It is this whole philosophy that militates against such an organization as the National Association of Evangelicals and on the other hand it is this very philosophy that cries out for the existence, growth and the aggressive ministry of such an organization. That evangelicals are a minority does not in any way affect the importance, truth and worthwhileness of what we are endeavoring to do. The fact we are a minority should be to our advantage and should cause us to lift our voices with even greater power.

Now the conclusion of this whole matter: Many do not discern this broad-churchism that is exerting increasing and harmful regimentation in various ways in Christendom. Evangelicals are slowly being deprived of religious freedom. True biblical "unity in Christ" is being lost sight of. In view of these facts evangelicals have their work clearly cut out for them. What is that work? First, a rededication of self to the truth of God's Word and our high calling in Christ. Second, a frank recognition of the facts as they now exist; quit practicing an ostrich-like philosophy and winking at the truth. Third, a strong aggressive program of witnessing and education to all people, in love and wisdom.

Such a program needs to be carried out within our own church groups, communities and denominations. This is not to be construed to mean we are fighting anyone, but as a demonstration of loyalty to "the things we most surely believe" as Christian citizens of the Kingdom of God. This must be done in love and the power of the Spirit, challenging the thinking of all to the end that there may come a true biblical "unity in Christ," that our Blessed Lord may be exalted and glorified and that the souls of men may be redeemed and blessed.

* * * *

No Saturation Point

Sugar can be placed in a container of water until it can no longer be integrated—that is the saturation point. However, in the Christian life no such point is ever reached.

No one can do too much, give too much or live too much for Christ. There never comes a time when one can relax and declare his work for the Lord is finished. One cannot attend church too often, nor learn too much about God's Word.

One cannot invite too many people, make too many calls, or exhaust the possibility of growth. One cannot pray too much or study the Word of the Lord too much. One cannot give too much to the work of the Lord. No matter how much is done, given or lived it will in no way measure up to that which the Lord did, gave and lived.

When tempted to feel that we are overdoing it, we need to take another look at Calvary. If tempted to let down we need to help Simon of Cyrene carry the cross that caused our Lord to fall beneath its weight.

Too spiritual, too well informed on the program of God, too generous of time and means to the church of Jesus Christ, too much sacrifice for Him who gave all for us?—*No Never! There is no such saturation point.*

—*The Harbinger.*

Action EDITORIAL

JAMES DeFOREST MURCH, Editor

Editorial Offices: United Evangelical Action, 111 East Fourth Street, Cincinnati 2, Ohio, U.S.A.

The Days Ahead

God has greatly blessed the National Association of Evangelicals in the fourteen years of its existence. It has given a basis of "cooperation without compromise or regimentation" to over 10,000,000 American evangelicals. It has demonstrated that spiritual unity in action can accomplish great things in the power of the Holy Spirit.

We dare not allow this great movement to become static or to solidify within the framework of our present constituency. We who lead in these days must be as adventurous, creative and effective as those who brought the NAE into being at Saint Louis and Chicago. We must not be satisfied until we have persuaded evangelicals in all the churches yet untouched by our message and program to cast their lot with us that we may move forward together for even greater accomplishment in the days ahead.

Oneness or unity is not static but dynamic. We believe without compromise the great fundamentals of the Christian faith but, like the followers of Christ in the apostolic church, we much realize that "the Word of God" is living and vital, dynamic and pulsating, able to vanquish its enemies and to constantly achieve new victories. Like them we must realize that the Spirit of God came not "Once upon a time" but comes yesterday, today and forever to constantly give new life and growth to every movement which has the blessing of God.

Let us then resist every tendency toward narrow sectarianism, isolationism, Pharisaism or self-satisfaction. We need to discern the signs of the times, to broaden the area of our contacts with other evangelicals everywhere and move forward in the direction of the ultimate purpose God has for us in these last days. If we continue to undertake in faith believing He will continue to abundantly bless us.

NCC's Radio "Purge"

Every week brings new evidence of the determination of the National Council of Churches' Broadcasting and Film Commission to eliminate paid religious broadcasting from our radio and television stations.

As promised in the Commission's annual meeting last spring they are working through their "constituent communions, councils of churches and councils of church women" and are bringing direct pressures to bear on "officers of networks and individual radio and television stations, members of the Federal Communications Commission, members of the appropriate committees of the Senate and the House of Representatives of the USA, religious communions and the general public" (see Glenwood Blackmore's article, "Shall the NCC Control Religious Broadcasting?" *Action,* July 1).

Should they be successful in their purposes they will eliminate most of the definitely evangelical, biblical radio and television broadcasting in the USA.

We give just one example of how their campaign of propaganda is being carried on: The Ohio Council of Churches, under the guise of a special radio-television survey, has contacted every radio station in Ohio recommending *"More use of programs released through the National Council of Churches"* and warning them against giving *"a disproportionate amount of time to . . . a type of commercial religious programming which does not reflect either the theology or the worship practices of the main body of the American people."*

Anyone who has kept abreast of the NCC's views and practices regarding religious broadcasting knows that this is just another way of saying, "The NCC represents all legitimate Protestant broadcasting in the USA and that the time has come to purge the airwaves of all evangelicals who buy time." The Ohio Council of Churches is probably the first to make clear that the crucial issue is Christian doctrine. The "liberal" leaders of the NCC are willing to grant a few evangelicals time to broadcast the Gospel, but they want the great bulk of the time for liberal programs.

Evangelicals need to make it clear to all concerned that liberal Protestantism is in the minority in the USA. There are 21,000,000 American Protestants who steadfastly refuse to join the National Council of Churches. Most of these people are evangelical in doctrine. There are at least another 10,000,000 unvoiced evangelicals in the denominations holding membership in the Council. This vast radio-television audience of evangelicals can be adequately served only through programs outside the aegis of the liberal-controlled Councils.

A great responsibility rests upon the National Religious Broadcasters, Inc., (the radio arm of the National Association of Evangelicals) to counter this NCC propaganda and keep the airwaves free for the broadcasting of the "faith once for all delivered to the saints." Furthermore, it behooves all evangelical radio-television broadcasters to join the NRB and help plan and finance an effective strategy.

The millions of evangelicals who want to hear the Gospel over the air should pray and write and talk to this end. The ever-faithful God will honor every worthy endeavor in His name.

Potpourri

Dr. H. Conrad Hoyer, Lutheran home missions leader, says that 66,000,000 USA citizens are unchurched and the number is growing. He blames the churches for "lack of awareness to their responsibility" . . . . World calendar changes have been postponed indefinitely. On motion by the delegate of The Netherlands, fifteen members of the UN Economic and Social Council voted, in effect, to keep the status quo . . . . . National Sunday School Week will be observed this year September 30 to October 7. The NSSA is providing helps, as usual . . . . . Dr. Bob Pierce, after visiting with India's Prime Minister Nehru, said: "Native soul winners, evangelists, teachers and leaders must be developed now at crisis speed. Practically every foreign missionary in India believes he will have to leave the country in a matter of months—at the outside, five years." . . . . . Home instruction in religion is a "must." In a lifetime the Sunday School scholar spends 1,000 hours in the classroom. He spends 90,000 waking hours in the home. Parents have a tremendous responsibility if the child is to be brought up in "the nurture and admonition of the Lord."

Renewed Violence in Colombia

Mennonite missionaries at La Cumbre, Valle have suffered two violent attacks on July 5 and 8 respectively. The attacks resulted in injuries to several Colombian evangelicals and damage to several buildings. The attacks were investigated by the Catholic priest at La Cumbre in spite of an attempt by his bishop to keep him from taking this course of action.

The first attack came during a special meeting which was being held in the Mennonite chapel at La Cumbre. This attack was made by more than 20 men who had been prompted to action by the local priest who used a P. A. system to denounce the Protestants and their meetings.

The second attack occurred in the middle of the night of July 8th.

Evangelicals had been warned that the Catholic priest was meeting with a group of men planning an attack against the evangelicals and their mission buildings. The attacks began with stonings which caused considerable damage to mission buildings. Then gasoline was poured around the building where the missionaries were located and the house was set aflame. The missionaries managed to escape through the rear door while the stoning continued.

The following morning a sixty-year-old Colombian woman, a well-known evangelical, was found severely beaten. She had been dragged along a barbed wire fence so that her face was torn severely. A blow on the head had caused serious loss of blood. The elderly lady was taken to a hospital in Cali where latest reports indicated that she was in fair condition.

Canadian and American Embassies in Bogota took steps to demand an investigation. There was evidence that local police had collaborated with the Catholic priest in planning the attack. The mission building which was set afire was badly charred, but was not gutted.

Churches and Civil Defense

The second meeting of the Religious Advisory Committee of the Federal Civil Defense Administration was held in Grand Rapids, Mich. recently under the leadership of Dr. Kern, chairman of the Committee. The following national religious organizations were invited by the government to participate: Lutheran Church-Missouri Synod; National Catholic Welfare Conference; National Lutheran Council; Seventh Day Adventist Church; National Council of the Churches of Christ in the USA; Synagogue Council of America; and the National Association of Evangelicals. Rev. Don Rogers of the Great Lakes Regional office of the NAE alternated as the NAE representative for Dr. Clyde W. Taylor.

The strategic position of the churches of America in case of attack was highlighted in the excellent presentation by the chairman. However the greatest problem facing the churches in the matter of civilian defense is the same as that faced by the whole nation in this matter, that is, "public apathy." To offset this the Committee is making available printed matter and other materials to publicize this need and has prepared an excellent series of courses to train pastors and lay leaders in this whole matter of civil defense.

NAE Office of Affairs, Washington, D. C.
Cable Address: EFMANAE
Phone: NAtional 8-7911

Arrangements can be made to have these courses taught in local centers throughout the USA that will fully prepare our church leaders to meet every phase of the tremendous crisis that an enemy H-bomb attack would precipitate. It was emphasized, however, that the main ministry of the churches must be a spiritual one. Serious questions were raised as to the actual relationship of the churches to civil defense and fear was expressed that if church facilities were used primarily for feeding, emergency hospitals, and similiar activities, churches would be incapable of performing their spiritual ministry.

Mr. Rogers reminded the committee that many of the casualties might be ministers in which case laymen should be trained to assist in such emergencies. We as evangelical churches must be awake to the great spiritual opportunities such a disaster would offer to those with a vital Christian faith.

It was pointed out that whereas the government would not use martial law unless it became absolutely necessary, still no person will be allowed free movement in time of emergency except those registered and enrolled with CD. Those ministers not enrolled will not be allowed to freely minister to their people. Not only should our evangelical ministers enroll immediately with their local CD offices but church members should be encouraged to cooperate.

Speaking in the interests of the NAE, Mr. Rogers stressed that (1) we must constantly remember that the primary ministry of the church is spiritual; (2) that because of our spiritual beliefs evangelicals could not be expected to administer any ritual which would give the appearance of countenancing doctrines which we consider false; (3) that, we as evangelicals, after attending to spiritual needs, would certainly do everything possible to help in physical matters; and (4) that we encourage the training of Christian laymen to assist in the spiritual ministry of the church in CD.

Evangelicals are asked to contact the NAE Washington office for information about films, literature and suggestions for promoting CD interest in the local community.

Post Exchange Reform

The Catholic press recently rolled its guns up to the door of the Defense Department and fired a volley which has resulted in some healthy action.

The issue: Sale of "highly objectionable reading matter" which was being sold to Armed Services personnel through post exchanges in Japan and Korea.

Net result: An order from the office of Secretary of Defense Charles E. Wilson, signed by Carter L. Burgess, Assistant Secretary for Manpower. Commanding officers are ordered to tighten up on surveillance of material being sold through the post exchanges.

The main volume of protest in this matter was carried by the National Catholic Welfare Conference news service which printed a dispatch from its foreign exchange correspondent, Father Patrick O'Connor.

The dispatch charged that salacious material was being sold to servicemen through the post exchanges. Immediately there was protest from Catholics in every section of the country. Several members of Congress joined the battle, including Senator George H. Bender of Ohio, Representative Patrick J. Hillings, and Representative Michael Feighan. Mr. Hillings called on the Armed Services to review its procedures and to apply more rigid standards to literature sold at its Post exchanges.

The Defense Department made reply to members of Congress saying that commanders usually relied on advice from chaplains and character guidance councils, on these matters. Another Army source replied to the effect that material being sold at the Post exchange must be okay because it was carried in the mails by the Post Office. Congressional offices considered this an unsatisfactory answer. Meanwhile the protests being spurred by the Catholic news service increased and the Defense Department decided on further action. The communication signed by Mr. Burgess asked that commanding officers "take continuing action through the appropriate agency of your department to insure that the books and periodicals offered to Service personnel, through military and quasi-military sources, reflect the standards of decency and morality, which characterize our military forces."

Catholic sources had reported, and the Defense Department concurred, that the same conditions existed in other places as in Japan and Korea. The recent directive will apply to all overseas bases.

Alcohol Advertising

As the 84th Congress was coming down the homestretch of its second session it seemed virtually impossible that any action would be taken on the pending bills to limit alcohol advertising. Committees on both sides of the capitol dome had gone to considerable trouble and expense to hold hearings on this matter. Opposition statements had it that legislation had been sidetracked in favor of "priority" legislation. To be more specific and candid it must be admitted that liquor interests have been able to sell the committees a bill of goods to the effect that this legislation would be "unconstitutional."

The most weighty argument against legislation to ban alcohol advertising has been the argument of unconstitutionality. The booze barons leaned on

(Continued on page 10)

EVANGELICAL NEWSFRONT

RNS AND E/P REPORTS ● UEA CORRESPONDENCE

—PUBLIC AFFAIRS—

Professor Forecasts Prohibition's Return

LOUISVILLE—(BP)—America will be "dry" again, V. L. Stanfield predicted at the recent National Temperance Institute held at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary here.

"The price paid for alcohol in broken bodies, broken homes, and lost time in industry is too high," Stanfield, professor of preaching at the host Seminary, said, "I do not believe the American public will continue to see such things happen."

Registered for the nine-day institute were ninety-two pastors and temperance workers representing twenty states and Canada.

Move Will Protect USA Religious Rights Abroad

WASHINGTON, D.C.—A bi-partisan Senate move to strengthen the religious rights of Americans abroad is hailed by POAU Executive Director Glenn L. Archer as "sorely needed at a time when American citizens in such countries as Colombia, Spain, Greece, Iran, Italy and Haiti, as well as Saudi Arabia, face religious discrimination."

S. Res. 298, the measure to which Archer was referring, was introduced on June 27 by Senator Herbert H. Lehman (D., N.Y.) for himself and Senators Paul H. Douglas (D., Ill.), William Langer (R., N.D.), Frederick G. Payne (R., Me.), James E. Murray (D., Mont.) and Wayne Morse (D., Ore.). Although the New York Senator made it clear in his accompanying remarks that the immediate occasion for the resolution was discrimination by the Saudi Arabian Government against USA servicemen and civilians of Jewish origin, the resolution was so phrased as to apply to religious discrimination practiced by any foreign governments against any American citizens of whatever faith:

In *Colombia,* where an American missionary was beaten nearly to death by police last fall and the Government's policy of "protecting" the "established" Roman Catholic Church by suppressing Protestantism continues to threaten the lives and property of Americans as well as of Colombian Citizens.

In *Spain,* where continuing attacks by Roman Catholic authorities on the "Protestant danger" go hand-in-hand with police raids on foreign missionary headquarters, including those operated by Americans. The British Government recently made representations to Spain about some of these incidents and indignant members of the House of Lords on June 6 pressed their Government for further action, particularly in view of "all that Spain took responsibility for when she signed the Declaration of Human Rights, Article 18 of which was quite specific on these matters . . ."

In *Greece,* where Government moves have been made to seize land belonging to American evangelicals, and to require Protestant churches to submit complete lists of all persons attending services.

In *Iran,* where Army chiefs and Moslem religious leaders personally directed the demolition of the Baha'i spiritual center in Teheran in May 1955, and further acts of persecution against the sect have since occurred.

In *Italy,* where American missionaries have fought a long and partially successful fight in the courts for the right to publicize their services without the necessity of securing police permission, but where there is still much confusion about the extent of constitutional protections at the same time that Roman Catholic churchmen continue to press for restrictions on non-Catholic "cults."

In *Haiti,* where Government leaders persuaded USA officials early last year that inclusion of religious liberty clauses in a draft Treaty of Friendship between the two countries might "embarrass" the Haitian regime at home.

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Christian Amendment Movement Is Growing

PITTSBURGH, Pa.—Five congressmen and one senator introduced "The Christian Amendment" Resolution in the 84th Congress, and many senators and representatives wrote of their interest in its promotion.

"The Way Out" a fifteen minute weekly series of programs sponsored by the Christian Amendment Movement and written and produced by Miss Eugenia Price have been carried regularly on some 150 radio stations in thirty-five states during the last year. Many letters come in weekly to the CAM headquarters from these broadcasts.

Dr. A. J. McFarland, secretary of CAM, reports that plans are almost complete for another series to start on two 50,000 watt stations, one in the East, the other in the central West. These programs will center directly on the Christian Amendment and will contain statements of endorsement from church and state leaders.

The Hon. Ralph E. Flanders, Senator from Vermont introduced into the *Congressional Record* on January 24, '56, a clear concise statement relative to the purpose and value of the Christian Amendment, and a reprint of this article is available to anyone who would like to have it. For full information about this Movement write, The Christian Amendment Movement, 804 Penn Ave., Pittsburgh 21, Pa.

Ten Commandments to Be Erected at State Capitol

HELENA, Mont.—(RNS)—A large stone monument inscribed with the Ten Commandments will be erected in a landscaped setting on the Montana capitol grounds here.

Gov. J. Hugo Aronson headed the state board of examiners who approved installation of the religious monolith. Other members were Attorney General Arnold H. Olsen and Secretary of State Steve C. Arnold.

The monument will be a gift from national and state Eagles' organizations.

USA Supreme Court to Review Tax Decision

SAN FRANCISCO—(RNS)—A group of California taxpayers has decided to carry to the United States Supreme Court a case which could affect the tax exempt status of every religious organization in the country.

The California Taxpayers Alliance will ask the nation's highest tribunal to overthrow a state law granting property tax exemption to non-profit private and parochial schools.

Henry C. Clausen, attorney for the Alliance, said the appeal will be filed within thirty days. He indicated that it would be made on the grounds that the state statute, passed by the legislature in 1951 and approved by voters in a statewide referendum the following year, violates the First and the Fourteenth Amendments.

He said that federal questions of "discrimination, class legislation and separation of Church and State" are involved in the case.

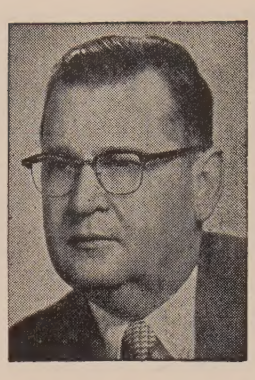
Andrew F. Burke, an attorney for the Roman Catholic Welfare Corporation of San Francisco, said a decision on the federal questions will affect all tax exemptions granted to churches, religious schools and religious organizations by the federal government and by the states.

In June, the California Supreme Court, in a 4-3 decision upheld the state law which grants tax exemption to non-profit private elementary and high schools.

The court ruled that the exemption was designed to encourage education and not to favor religious institutions, since it applied to all nonprofit schools.

FROM THE EXECUTIVE

Director's Desk



An investment in the National Association of Evangelicals is a "good bargain" for it provides more service per dollar than any other such organization.

Take, for instance, the field of radio where NAE in cooperation with its affiliate, the National Religious Broadcasters, has prevented liberal control of radio that would have forced all regular evangelistic programs off the air; or church extension, where the NAE has been able to show planners that freedom of choice in church location must be maintained rather than leaving the control to local councils of churches which often fail to represent the evangelical constituency.

The Washington office of the NAE provides service for missions, religious liberty, immigration and chaplaincy and keeps a constant watch on legislation and other developments that might result in the abridgment of religious liberty.

These are but a few of the some fifteen commissions and affiliates that serve the evangelicals of America day in and day out. That is why an investment in the NAE is a "good bargain" and why a gift to the NAE is a help to the cause closest to your heart. Your gifts and prayers will keep the evangelical voice strong and clear.

GEORGE L. FORD
Executive Director, National Association of Evangelicals

"The principle of separation of Church and State is not impaired," the court declared in the majority decision.

Early in July, the California court turned down an appeal for a rehearing, which was filed by former Governor Culbert L. Olson.

In a "friend of the court" brief, the former state chief executive said the court decision, if not reversed, would "commit California to the subsidization of Catholic parochial schools particularly and incidentally other sectarian schools." The next step, he contended, would be "direct grants for the support of Catholic schools in our state budget."

Until the state statute was passed and approved by the voters, California was the only state in the union not granting property tax exemption to nonprofit private and parochial schools.

Quakers Refuse Records To Investigating Group

PHILADELPHIA — (RNS) — The Plymouth Monthly Meeting of the Religious Society of Friends has refused to turn over its minutes to the House Committee on Un-American Activities for hearings here.

The action was made known with the release of a letter to the committee chairman, Rep. Francis E. Walter (D.-Pa.), from Harry E. Sprogell, attorney for the library committee of the Quaker group.

It said the Quakers "desire to cooperate" with the Congressional committee in answering questions of fact but suggested that "it has no doubt escaped your attention that Plymouth Meeting is a religious society and that its records are protected by the First Amendment to the Constitution from subpoena by a government body."

Mrs. Lillian P. Tapley, chairman of the group's library committee, had been subpoenaed to appear before the Congressional committee with the minutes of both the Monthly Meeting and its library committee.

The Quaker group has been criticized by some residents of Plymouth Meeting, Pa., for its refusal to dismiss Mrs. Mary Knowles as librarian of the William Jeanes Memorial Library, which the Friends body operates for communities in Plymouth and Whitemarsh Townships, Philadelphia suburbs.

Mrs. Knowles was cited for contempt by the USA Senate for refusing to answer questions concerning her alleged association some ten years ago with Communist "front" groups. In July, 1955, the Fund for the Republic awarded Plymouth Meeting $5,000 for its "courageous and effective defense of democratic principles" in declining to yield to local and other pressures for dismissal of its librarian.

EDUCATION

Mennonite Brethren Buy A Mansion for Seminary

FRESNO, Calif.—A twelve-room mansion formerly the home of Wylie M. Giffen, founder of the Sun-Maid Raisin Growers cooperative, was purchased here by the Pacific district of the Mennonite Brethren Church of North America. It will be used by the Mennonite Brethren Biblical Seminary this fall.

The church group also has acquired fifty-three acres of land adjoining the six-acre estate for subdivision and as a site for Pacific Bible Institute.

YOUTH

Youth for Christ Votes New Budget of $690,000

WINONA LAKE, Ind.—Youth for Christ International adopted a budget of $690,000 for 1956-7 at its 12th annual convention here. It is $135,000 more than last year's budget.

Dr. Robert A. Cook of Wheaton, Ill., was re-elected president for his ninth consecutive one-year term. Evon Hedley of Toronto was chosen vice-president, E. T. Darling of Detroit, secretary, and Elliott Stedelbaur of Toronto, treasurer.

The more than 4,000 delegates voted to hold the 1957 Youth Congress on Evangelism at Frankfurt, Germany. The 1956 congress is to be at Caracas, Venezuela from Aug. 5-12.

The delegates adopted a resolution condemning "the flood of obscene literature now threatening the morals of millions of youth." Other resolutions commended TV and radio stations and systems that "provide wholesome entertainment and dramatic programs of a constructive nature" and editors who "fight the showing of crime and horror pictures on television."

The young people pledged themselves to abstain from tobacco and alcoholic beverages, lauded President Eisenhower for his personal abstinence and commended him for his regular church attendance and his habit of personal prayer.

DENOMINATIONS

Congregational Merger To Be Opposed in Meet

WAUWATOSA, Wis.—(RNS)—Representatives of Congregational Christian churches which have not taken a favorable stand on the forthcoming merger of their denomination with the Evangelical and Reformed Church will hold a national meeting here Oct. 25-26.

Represented will be churches which either oppose the union or are awaiting the presentation of a constitution for the proposed new United Church of Christ before taking a definite stand.

The meeting was called by the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches of the United States set up last November in Detroit. The group was formed in anticipation of a decision by the Congregational Christian General Council to go ahead with the merger. Delegates will discuss further plans for the organization during the conference.

Some 130 to 140 churches were reported to have joined the association. There are 5,536 Congregational churches in the country.

The meeting will be held at First Congregational church in this Milwaukee suburb. Members of the Wauwatosa congregation voted 259-9 against joining the United Church on the present basis of union. Several other congregations in the Milwaukee area also have opposed the merger.

Rev. Neil H. Swanson Jr., minister of the Wauwatosa church, said congregations opposed to the union were remaining in the denomination's General Council even though there has been a decision to merge.

The union was approved by the General Council at its biennial meeting last June in Omaha, Neb.

Form Association of Evangelical Quakers

DENVER, Colo.—Formation of a new international Quaker organization, the Association of Evangelical Friends,

was completed here with the adoption of a program stressing active evangelism and the election of officers.

The step was taken at the fourth triennial conference of Evangelical Friends here.

Major objectives of the new body set up to "encourage the spirit of prayer and revivalism of Quakerdom" were outlined by Rev. Gerald W. Dillon of Portland, Ore., who was elected to a six-year term as its first chairman.

He called for a worldwide program of evangelical relief and service, the dispatch of mission teams to Quaker centers over the world, convening of a doctrinal conference for the restatement of Friends' beliefs in terms of modern-day living, and promotion of evangelism and church extension particularly among Negro and Indian groups in this country.

Mr. Dillon also urged establishment of a newspaper to serve the new organization as well as other extensive publication efforts.

Also elected to six-year terms were Rev. Charles S. Boll, president of William Penn College, Oskaloosa, Ia., who was named vice-chairman, and Rev. Lloyd Hinshaw of Denver, treasurer. Rev. Simeon O. Smith of Westfield, Ind., was chosen secretary for a three-year term.

Free Will Baptists Meet in Huntington

HUNTINGTON, W. Va.—Delegates to the 20th annual convention here of the National Association of Free Will Baptists adopted a budget of $371,845 for 1957 and directed that it be raised by a cooperative program and other means.

The 1,703 persons who attended the sessions were registered from 18 states and Cuba. They heard a report that the denomination now has more than 400,000 members over the country.

A resolution was unanimously adopted by the delegates placing the association on record as opposed to the sale of intoxicating beverages on all airlines and to the advertisement of such beverages on radio and television.

Rev. Charles A. Thigpen of Highland Park, Mich., was re-elected for a third one-year term as moderator of the association's General Board. Rev. H. A. Pitts of Winfield, Ala., was chosen assistant moderator to succeed Rev. Walter Carter of Rockingham, N.C.

Birmingham, Ala., was selected as the site of the 1957 annual meeting and St. Louis, Mo., for the 1958 meeting.

Suomi Synod Moves Toward "Broader Lutheran Union"

ASHTABULA, O. — (RNS) — By a vote of 193 to 21, delegates to the annual meeting here of the Finnish Lutheran Church of America (Suomi Synod) voted to negotiate with other member bodies of the National Lutheran Council looking toward "broader Lutheran union."

An invitation had been extended to the synod by the United Lutheran Church in America and the Augustana Lutheran Church to join in a move to unite all American Lutheran denominations.

The synod also has been invited to become a part of a proposed new Lutheran denomination to be formed in 1960 by the United Evangelical Lutheran, the American Lutheran and the Evangelical Lutheran Churches.

WORLD-WIDE

Judaism Threatened With Extinction in Red Russia

NEW YORK—(RNS)—Three American rabbis who visited the Soviet Union reported here that the Jewish faith is threatened with extinction there. But they said the position of Jews is somewhat better now than two years ago.

The clergymen are Rabbis Emanuel Rackman of Far Rockaway, N.Y., president of the New York Board of Rabbis; Morris N. Kertzer of Rockville Center, N.Y., secretary of the board; and David I. Golovensky of New Rochelle, N.Y., its vice-president.

In Moscow, they said, one synagogue and two auxiliary houses of worship are all that exist to serve a Jewish community of 300,000 persons, while the 200,000 Jews of Leningrad, who formerly had 16 synagogues, now have only one.

The rabbis said they found no religious schools for Jewish youth and were informed by the State Council on Cults that such institutions were forbidden. They added that they had been unable to discover any Yiddish cultural institutions, any recent religious literature, a Hebrew press, a national Jewish organization, or a Jewish social service organization.

Although reports of the planned publication of a new Jewish prayer book have been circulated for about a year and a half, the rabbis said, none has yet appeared and officials conceded they did not even have available any Hebrew type fonts.

In the latter years of the Stalin regime, the trio said, government policy was openly anti-Jewish but the present Soviet government does not appear anti-Semitic although its basic policy is antagonistic to all religion.

MISSIONS

Dentist-Missionaries Needed in Many Lands

SEATTLE, Wash.—Dr. Vaughn V. Chapman heads an organization, The Missionary Dentist, Inc., which is devoted to recruiting and sponsoring dentists for missionary service throughout the world.

The interdenominational group, set up in Seattle in 1950, works with all Christian bodies wishing its assistance in interesting dentists to invest their lives in missionary work.

Dr. Chapman says, "Most missionary operations include medical doctors, nurses, agriculturalists, evangelists and teachers, but few have dentists."

Illustrating acuteness of the need, Dr. Chapman quotes Dr. John Moody, who wrote while at home on furlough from Vellore, India, "In our home country we are able to visit a dentist just around the corner at the slightest sign of trouble. But in India there are only approximately 2,500 dentists for a population of 450,000,000. This means that many thousands die each year directly as a result of dental diseases."

Board members of The Missionary Dentist, Inc., include Dr. Henry H. Ness, California; Dr. Louis T. Talbot, chancellor of the Bible Institute of Los Angeles, and Asa B. Chapman, Seattle, father of the director.

SUNDAY SCHOOL

NSSA Summer Confabs Draw Sunday School-ers

CHICAGO.—The National Sunday School Association's Summer Conference at Maranatha Camp, North Platte, Neb., August 1-5, was largely attended.

Conference leaders were Rev. George Davis, Mr. Wm. T. Greig, Jr., Dr. Howard Hendricks, Rev. Mahlon Macy, Dr. Clate A. Risley, Miss Winona Walworth and other outstanding Sunday School experts.

The NSSA's Labor Day Week-end Conference at Taylor University, Upland, Indiana is the next big evangelical Sunday School event of the summer season. The dates: August 31-September 3. A galaxy of Sunday School personnel will be in charge of classes and workshops.

RADIO - TV

Churches of Christ Are Planning TV Program

SPRINGFIELD, Ill.—The Churches of Christ (Disciples) will soon have a television program for release throughout the USA. An eleven-man steering committee, headed by Robert M. Lillie of Colorado Springs, met here at the West Side Church of Christ recently and completed plans. The program will be operated under the name Christian Tele-film Productions. G. B. Gordon is acting as technical adviser.

This move is the outgrowth of a meeting in the Kentucky Hotel, Louisville, Ky., during the sessions of the North American Christian Convention last spring. Since then studies have been made of all the major religious television programs being currently offered. Consultations have been held with experts in the radio-television field. A pilot film is now being prepared for test runs before full-scale production is attempted.

Brethren in Christ Launching Broadcast

UPLAND, Calif.—The Brethren in Christ Church is to have a denominational radio broadcast beginning this fall. The program will be taped on the campus of Upland College here and made available to radio stations throughout the nation.

In 1952 the General Conference authorized a study of the radio broadcasting situation. Later conferences encouraged the development of definite plans. Final arrangements for the new program have been made by Radio Pastor Owen Alderfer, Program Manager Ernest Boyer, Production Manager David Carlson, Music Director Royce Saltzman and Technician William Boyer.

The Broadcast has applied for membership in the National Religious Broadcasters, Inc.

Peace and Unrest

PERSONALIA

John Linton of Windsor, Ont., Canada was awarded first prize in the recent sermon contest conducted by The Sword of the Lord.

Wilfred C. Frykman has been appointed director of personnel and public relations for Scripture Press. This well-known publishing house is scheduled to move into their new office building at Wheaton, Ill., late this fall.

L. R. Wilson, minister of Central Church of Christ, Cleburne, Tex., succeeds the late G. C. Brewer as editor of the *Voice of Freedom.*

Robert L. Shallenberg, International Harvester executive, has been appointed chairman of the Chicago committee making local arrangements for the 11th Annual Convention of the National S. S. Association, October 10-12.

Akiji Kurumada of the Oriental Missionary Society has been elected president of the Evangelical Fellowship of Japan.

Joseph Brookshire, Methodist evangelist, has recently conducted city-wide campaigns in Camden, N. J., Norfolk, Va., and Lebanon, Ky., with several hundred responses.

Raymond Heilig, pastor of First Baptist Church, Minot, has been elected president of the Conservative Baptist Association of North Dakota.

Carl F. H. Henry, editor of *Christianity Today,* is the author of an extensive volume, "Christian Personal Ethics," to be published in January by Eerdmans.

Terrelle B. Crum, dean of Providence-Barrington Bible College, is on a tour of the Bible Lands this summer. The tour party is being directed by Rev. James E. Pemberton, director of the Pastoral Studies department of PBBC.

Hyman Appelman recently conducted his third evangelistic crusade with Dr. Robert M. Parr and the great Mt. Gilead Baptist Church, Detroit, Mich., with more than 400 actual additions to the church.

James DeForest Murch, editor of *United Evangelical Action,* is the author of the first definitive history of the National Association of Evangelicals. It will be issued this fall by Eerdmans under the title, "Cooperation without Compromise."

William Sanford LaSor recently received the degree of Doctor of Theology from the University of Southern California. He is now on sabbatical leave from Fuller Theological Seminary and has been appointed honorary lecturer at the American School of Oriental Research in Jerusalem.

Capitol Report

(Continued from page 6)

it heavily. Enough members of Congress had been affected by it to keep the scales tipped against further action by Congress.

Meanwhile several alert members of Congress have begun thinking in terms of strengthening the Alcohol Advertising Act. Back in 1935 brewers were able to creep out from under the provisions of this act. Since then the act has applied mainly to distillers and importers. A study being made on Capitol Hill would indicate that if the brewers could be put under the act and if certain provisions of the act could be strengthened alcohol advertising would be subject to further supervision by federal authorities.

The joker is that the act would have to be strengthened tremendously to meet objections which have been raised against beer ads. Even though the brewers do not presently come under the provisions of the act their advertising is largely in accord with the regulations.

Present regulations rule out reproductions of the American flag, pictures of the Armed Forces, obscene pictures, references to taste tests, competitor comparisons and misleading statements on the therapeutic properties of alcohol. The laws now on the books fail to meet the objection to family scenes, nor would they do anything to eliminate the suggestive pitch which is continually being made to youth.

The act is administered by the Alcohol tax unit of the Internal Revenue Bureau. Wholesalers, importers and producers of distilled spirits are issued permits which are revokable if they do not act in accord with the provisions of present legislation. Brewers are subject to the regulations in about 14 states which have similar legislation. The value of this course of action is doubted seriously by most temperance leaders in Washington, who feel that it would do little or nothing to meet the existing problems. The main strength of the suggestion lies in the fact that it could not be considered unconstitutional in any sense. Neither would it be effective in dealing with the problem.

Air Safety and Alcohol

Air safety got considerable attention in the latter days of the 84th Congress. Congress was tending to drag its feet on air alcohol bills. This was mainly due to counter measures, which were adopted by the Air Transport Association. The counter measures amounted to nothing more than an announcement that the airlines had agreed to act in accord with a safety code which is already enforced by most airlines. The major provision of this voluntary code is to limit the number of drinks to two per passenger.

Debate on the issue was scheduled in the House for the week of July 16. There was little doubt that the measure would meet much opposition on the House side.

Key to the Senate situation was Senator Warren S. Magnuson of Washington, Chairman of the Senate Interstate and Foreign Commerce Committee. His decision to report the bill favorably to the Senate would probably mean its passage into law.

Conducted by
ARNOLD D. EHLERT

"The Rise of the Cults." Walter R. Martin. 117 pp. Zondervan. $2.00.

This is part of the new series of studies in the cults which is being produced by Zondervan's Division of Cult Apologetics, of which the author is Director. This material was first delivered in lecture form at Shelton College.

Here we find a brief summary of the history and beliefs of Jehovah's Witnesses, Theosophy, Mormonism, Christian Science, Unity, and Father Divine. The same author in collaboration with Norman H. Klann has written on Jehovah's Witnesses and Christian Science in separate volumes. A comprehensive manual of over five hundred pages is promised on all the cults by 1957.

"Effective Bible Study." Howard F. Vos. 224 pp. Zondervan. $3.50.

The author is on the faculty of Moody Bible Institute and has taught at two other institutions. He holds the doctor's degree from Dallas Theological Seminary. Thorough training and practical experience have combined to produce this manual of Bible study which treats seventeen methods of working with the sacred text. Some may question the validity of some of the headings, The Political Method, The Cultural Method, The Psychological Method, etc. What Dr. Vos is after is to show that the Bible can be studied for these values and teachings, and that these considerations are actually present in the Bible. There is much helpful material in this book. There are, however, still further matters that could have been discussed, such as the system of the horizontal wedge outline used by Bullinger, athough not originated by him; values of the different study Bibles, Bible markings, etc. Charting was not adequately dealt with, and the so-called dispensational method does not seem to be dealt with. There is a short subject index, but a lengthy Scripture index, which latter would seem to have a limited usefulness in a book of this kind. The volume will probably find a large usefulness in courses on Bible study.

"What They Believe; A Survey of Religious Faith Among Groups of College Students." G. Edwin Covington. xi, 109 pp. Philosophical Library. $4.50.

Surveys are always interesting. The blurb says that this study "reveals a correlation of faith to the traditional Judaeo-Christian theological dogma under the impact of modernity. It is a literal barometer of religious faith, interest, interpretation, and practice as found among today's youth irrespective of race, creed, or economic position." Ordinarily we do not go out of our way to criticize a blurb, for they are designed to highlight the book, and to interest readers in it. Blurb writers may be forgiven for exaggeration, but they cannot be forgiven for misrepresentation. This book is not what the blurb says it is. It goes on to say that "the trend of faith among modern youth moves toward enlightened humanism . . . youth is not inclined to hope for the future nor to fear a distant hell."

A rapid survey of the book convinced the reviewer that the majority of college young people are headed toward orthodox Christian faith, were thoroughgoing theists and had a high Christology. Of those who replied to the questionnaire 77.9% believed in the virgin birth of Jesus, 84.5% believed that

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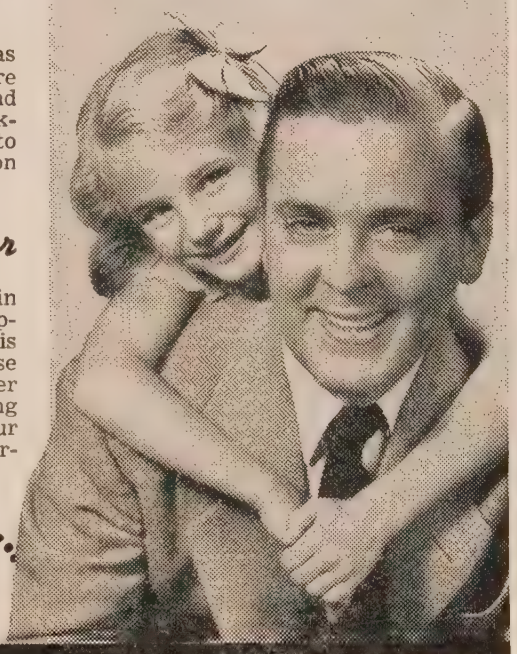

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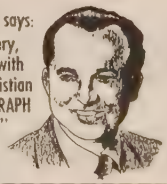

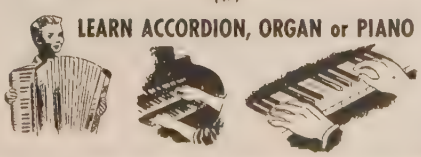

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CONGRESS ON PROPHECY

to be held in

LOS ANGELES,

OCT. 7-14

The Second International Congress on Prophecy held in New York in November 1955, was an epoch-making event. The findings of this historic gathering are now available in the form of a MANIFESTO, and the leading addresses will soon appear in a book under the title "Understanding the Times."

By popular demand another Congress on Prophecy for the Pacific Coast Area will be held at the Church of the Open Door in Los Angeles this coming October 7-14 with many churches cooperating and a Committee of One Hundred sponsoring the event. Speakers at Los Angeles will include:

John F. Walvoord — John G. Mitchell
Alva J. McClain — William F. Kerr
James McGinlay — Hyman J. Appelman
Albert J. Lindsey — R. L. Powell
Archer Weniger — Wilbur M. Smith
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God was the creator of all things, 87.5% said that Christ is God.

But a closer scrutiny of the book reveals that it is based on a voluntary return of 844 out of 2000 questionnaires given out. Further, of these returns, only 18% were from non-church members. Of the total, 39.3% were of the Missionary Baptist denomination. On one question the author states that the majority of 780 replies were "descendants of the victims" of American slavery (p. 34). It would seem that these two statistics alone would condemn the book as a totally inadequate sampling of American college students.

"Greek-English Concordance to the New Testament." J. B. Smith. 430 pp. Herald Press, Scottdale, Pa. $12.75.

The subtitle reads further, "A tabular and statistical Greek-English concordance based on the King James version with an English-to-Greek index." One asks immediately what this concordance has that no other has. The answer is that one can get the same information from Young's or Strong's concordance but not in the same form. Here we have each Greek word tabulated in chart form with each occurrence for each English word by which it is translated, and this is listed for each book of the New Testament, with totals for the number of occurrences in each book and the grand total. The Greek words are transliterated so that one can use this tool even though he has not had Greek. The King James text is used. There is an English index by which one can see at a glance what Greek words an English word translates and the number of times it translates each. It is evident that a prodigious amount of labor went into this work and errors are inevitable. A list of errata discovered in indexing is given in the front. This volume will probably do more for the student of New Testament words, and do it faster, than any other tool.

"The Minister Behind the Scenes." George Hedley. xii, 147 pp. Macmillan. $2.50.

These are the James A. Gray lectures at Duke University for 1955. Two chapters are devoted to the minister's reading and study habits, one to the preparation of services, one on his recreation, one on personal finances, and one on his devotional life. The themes are simple, but they are reinforced and made significant by the fact that in preparation for these lectures the author sent a questionnaire to pastors in northern California in towns under 40,000 in population. The results are tabulated satistically in an appendix. The minister who wants to know how his brethren of the cloth live should read this book. He will also learn how he and they ought to live.

"Master Book of New Illustrations." Walter B. Knight. 760 pp. Eerdmans. $6.95.

One does not think of a book of illustrations as being a beautiful book, but Eerdmans have managed to turn this one out in a very atractive format. The binding is attractive, the labels brilliant and tasty, the paper of good quality, and the typography well handled. Again one asks what place another book of illustrations has when there are so many, but the compiler assures us that the more than 4,000 in this volume are all different from those in his former volume, *3,000 Illustrations for Christian Service*. Having been a news correspondent in his early years he has an eye and an ear for good stories. These are broadly classified in about 125 categories and there is no detailed index. The alphabet starts off as follows: Assurance, Atheism, Bible, Care, God's Children, Choosing, etc. Sources are given by author or title or both. Frankly, there are some good stories in this volume. It will stay on the reviewer's shelf.

"The Church in Southeast Asia." Winburn T. Thomas and Ralph B. Manikam. xvi, 171 pp. Friendship Press. $2.50 (paper, $1.50).

Some would have us believe that the missionary era is about at an end, and the era of the churches is beginning. The countries included in the study are: Burma, Formosa, Indochina, Indonesia, Malaya, Philippines, and Thailand. Almost two million square miles of territory and over 180,000,000 people are involved. Christianity is not new to this area. In some places it is very scanty. But it is held by the writers, and surely by all Christians, to be the real hope of Southeast Asia. Some four million

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church members are now scattered through this area. Islam, Buddhism, Communism, and some ethnic and racial groups present strong challenges to Christ, and unfortunately some of these are gaining ground over Christianity. One hope, however, is that the native churches themselves are becoming missionary minded, and will help to stem these tides.

"Encyclopedia of Biblical Interpretation." Genesis, Vol. II. Menahem M. Kasher. xiv, 272 pp. American Biblical Encyclopedia Society, 114 Liberty St., New York 6, N.Y. $6.50.

While the price looks high, this volume is eleven inches high and there are two columns to the page. Here we have an attempt to collect in biblical order all the comments of significance from all rabbinic writings of the centuries, including the Jerusalem and Babylonian Talmuds, the Midrashim, and the myraids of commentaries. Sixteen volumes of this work have already appeared in Hebrew, which is yet less than half of the anticipated total.

One has two astonishments in connection with this encyclopedic work—first that an attempt has been made at all to gather together such a wide range of material in this manner, and secondly that there is so little material on a given verse. If one were to attempt to bring together the essence of Christian commentaries on the Old Testament alone, it would run into many pages for each verse. No satisfactory explanation for this difference appears in the introductory matter to this encyclopedia.

There is real value in this work, for the Christian scholar as well as for the Jewish, however. It gives an insight into rabbinic methods of interpretation and provides much material that can be used in an illustrative manner for preaching and teaching. It appears that one could use the note given on Genesis 13:16 in support of the interpretation that the water of John 3:5 and similar passages refers to the Word of God. The comment runs thus: "The dust of the earth is blessed only through water; so will thy children be blessed only for the sake of the Torah, which is likened to water" (p. 145).

"The Religious Bodies of America." Second edition. F. E. Mayer. xiii, 591 pp. Concordia. $8.50.

Within nine months after its appearance the first edition of this handbook was sold out. In the meantime the author has died, and this revision has been prepared by his colleague, Arthur Carl Piepkorn. The various denominations and sects of Christendom, and some only remotely Christian, have been gathered together under twelve sections and described historically, doctrinally, and in some respects critically evaluated. The author's purpose was to describe objectively within the framework of its own develop-

ment each group, but he does not hesitate to hold the criterion of biblical revelation to each doctrinal scheme. Yet this is not a book of the history of doctrine, nor of church history as such, nor yet of statistics, such as one will find in the *Yearbook of American Churches*, nor does it give directories of headquarters and present leaders.

In checking the various groups with which he is familiar, the reviewer finds generally satisfactory treatment. Modernism and Fundamentalism are treated as movements. Some will not like some of the categories, such as "Unionizing Churches," under which heading are included groups as widely different as Plymouth Brethren, the Disciples, the Moravians, and the United Church of Canada. A good deal of care has been exercised to make these studies accurate but a few errors will always remain in a work as extensive as this, e.g., H. C. Mackintosh instead of C. H. Mackintosh (p. 386), but it is good to see such careful work as exhibited by the explanation of Volume VII of Russell's *Studies in the Scriptures*. Bibliographies follow each section. There are three appendices and an extensive index, although the latter is not complete, leaving out such as Plymouth Brethren, Volunteers of America. Darby is misspelled in the index and a few other typographical errors were observed. The book is beautifully bound in heavy buckram and will be a very useful volume.

BOOKS RECEIVED

"Spiritual Power for your Congregation." C. W. Berner. 2 vols. Concordia. $2.25. A pastor's handbook and idea kit in one volume and a laymen's guide in the other. The latter is designed as a study book for the people, while the former is the teacher's and leader's manual, which is full of questions, sample letters, and sample forms for certificates, etc. Here are ideas that any pastor can use.

"New Testament Christianity." J. B. Phillips. 107 pp. Macmillan. $2.25. Coming with fresh enthusiasm and insight from his translation of most of the New Testament into the now well known modern version, the author speaks here of the Christian and the Church with penetrating criticism and a challenge to recapture the simplicity and yet the power of first-century Christianity This he sees more as a "quality of living" than as an "old-fashioned 'hell-fire' religion" (p. 107).

"God's Comfort for Sick Folks." William W. Orr. 32 pp. Scripture Press. 25c. Written directly to the sick.

"Prize-winning Young People's Programs." Doris Louise Seger. 80 pp. Scripture Press. $1.00. Thirteen original program suggestions awarded first prize in the recent Scripture Press idea contest. Includes poster reproductions.

"Sweeter than Honey." 88 pp. Scripture Press. $1.50. Devotional poems from John Oxenham's **Bees in Amber** with meditations from Bible verses on honey by V. Raymond Edman.

"St. Paul's Journeys in the Greek Orient." Henri Metzger. 75 pp. Philosophical Library. $2.75. This is no. 4 of the Studies in Biblical Archaeology series. The author is a former member of the French School in Athens, of the French Institute of Istanbul, and lecturer at the University of Lyons. The text is concentrated and well illustrated. Having traveled these waters himself, the author can describe graphically these journeys of Paul.

"The Man Who Would Preach." Robert E. Keighton. 128 pp. Abingdon. $2.00. "The only man who is satisfied with his sermons is the one who has a low standard of preaching" (p. 20). The author discusses the preacher's confusions, his comparisons, judgments of his sermons, the relative importance of manner and matter, "the riddle of the sermon," and matters personal to the preacher himself—thus he has squeezed another book on preaching onto the already long shelf, but which constantly grows longer.

"Rest for the Weary." Vance Havner. 154 pp. Revell. $2.00. In fifty meditations the author takes us over much ground of devotional attention to the promises of God and practical graces available to the believer.

"The Wisdom of the Torah." Edited by Dagobert D. Runes. 300 pp. Philosophical Library. $5.00 Selections from the Old Testament which leave it "free from the mythological tales, historical writings, political sermons, and ritualistic codes" (blurb). Looks like a waste of paper.

"Children's Sermons, Outlines, and Illustrations." James Stalker, John R. MacDuff, Richard Newton, and others. 96 pp. Baker Book House. $1.75. Ninth volume in the Minister's Handbook Series. Good variety and good authors.

"Expository Outlines on the Whole Bible." Volume 3: Judges through II Kings. 566 pp. Zondervan. $3.95.

"Israel, the Eternal Ideal." Irving Miller. xii, 148 pp. Farrar, Strauss & Co. $2.75. The saga of Israel in its recent national restoration is told graphically and yet philosophically by Rabbi Miller of Congregation Sons of Israel, Moodmrere, New York, former president of the American Jewish Congress and of the Zionist Organization of America.

"Animated Object Talks." Clyde Foushee. 159 pp. Revell. $2.00. Forty object lesson talks tested by the author in his own church. Most of the lessons require simple and easily accessible materials.

"Claim These Victories." J. Clyde Wheeler. 144 pp. Bethany Press. $2.50. Victory over twelve common afflictions of life: anxiety, doubt, discouragement, self-pity, insecurity, etc., is held out as the proper heritage of every christian. While there is extensive experience and technical understanding behind these messages, they are thoroughly understandable by the man in the street.

"Whitefield's Sermon Outlines; a Choice Collection of Thirty-five Model Sermons." George Whitefield. Selected and edited by Sheldon B. Quincer. 150 pp. Eerdmans. $2.50. Thirty-five outlines of the best of the famous revivalist.

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"Legends of St. Anne and Mary, the Mother of Jesus." Nancy Hearn Griffin. 122 pp. "His Word" Publications, P. O. Box 266-M, Pasadena 18, Calif.

"Preparation and Promotion of a Revival." Charles H. Morris. 56 pp. Zondervan. $1.00. A good little handbook for the evangelistic services in the church. The price is too high.

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"Sermons on the Lord's Prayer." Edited by H. J. Kuiper. 138 pp. Zondervan. $2.00. These sermons are by ministers of the Reformed and Christian Reformed Churches.

"Evangelistic Sermons by Great Evangelists." Edited by Russell V.DeLong. 183 pp. Zondervan. $2.50. Included are sermons by Appelman, Graham, Johnson, Orr, Rees, Rosell, Shuler, and other well known evangelists.

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"The Prophetic History of the Church." F. W. Grant. 183 pp. Loizeaux Bros. $2.00. This is the seventh printing, the first edition having apeared in 1902. Revelation 2 and 3 are expounded herein.

"How to be an Effective Sunday School Teacher." C. B. Eavey. 89 pp. Zondervan. $1.00. A good summary of the author's philosophy of the teacher and his work in the Sunday-school.

"Jesus Himself." Andrew Murray. 59 pp. Zondervan. 60c. A reprint from the 10th edition originally published in London. Minor revisions have been made in these addresses first delivered in South Africa in 1892.

"For Girls Only." Dorothy Haskin. 63 pp. Zondervan. $1.00. A very pointed and helpful message that minces no words. Many phases of a girl's life and many problems are discussed. The book abounds in specific references to examples.

"It's Tough to Be a Teen-ager." Robert A. Cook. 66 pp. Zondervan. $1.00. Bob Cook is President of Youth For Christ International. He knows young people and their problems as well as anybody can. This is a challenging book.

"Youthspiration Handbook No. 3 for Young People's Meetings, Youth Rallies, and Radio Broadcasts." George F. Santa. 93 pp. Zondervan. $1.00. Illustrated helps for thirteen meetings.

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"What Does the Bible Say?" Frend I. Johnson. 364 pp. Vantage. $3.75. Brief collections of Scripture passage on over five hundred subjects, arranged in alphabetical order. It is a sort of abridged analysis, such as the Hitchcock's or West's, except that here the subjects

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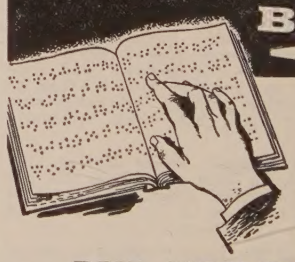

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"East From Burma." Constance M. Hallock. 120 pp. Friendship Press. $2.50. A very attractive description of religious life in Southeast Asia with illustrations. The impact of Christian missions in the various places is recounted briefly and one gets the impression that much is going on there that should be known by Christians in the West which is really the East to them.

"Selected Letters of John Wesley." Edited by Frederick C. Gill. vii, 244 pp. Philosophical Library. $4.50. Selected from the eight volumes of letters published in the standard edition, these represent a cross section of his correspondence with all kinds of people, and reveal a vigorous, albeit sometimes emotional, aspect of the great leader, as well as representing the various aspects of his church work.

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"Let There Be Light; the Art of Sermon Illustration." Benjamin P. Browne. 157 pp. Revell. $1.95. Some discussion of illustrations, their use and sources, with most of the book devoted to illustrations and stories under ten headings. There is no index, and the categories don't help much for reference (e.g., "Stories in Homespun," "Stories that Hit Home." "Soul-winning Stories" and "Whim and Witticism" do better. The chief help will come from the suggestions passed on by the author.

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"Nineveh and the Old Testament." Andre Parrot. 89 pp. Philosophical Library. $2.57. With five illustrations and twenty figures this little volume is a succinct summary of the archeological findings at the famous city visited by Jonah. Monsieur Parrot summarizes the relations of the kingdoms of Israel and Judah with Assyria. This is No. 3 in the Studies in Biblical Archaeology series.

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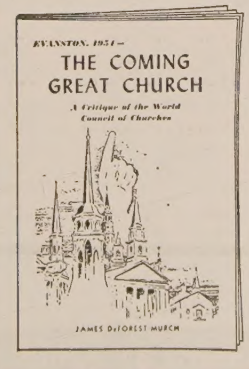

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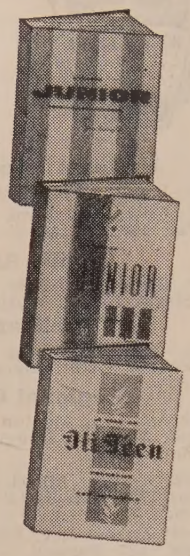

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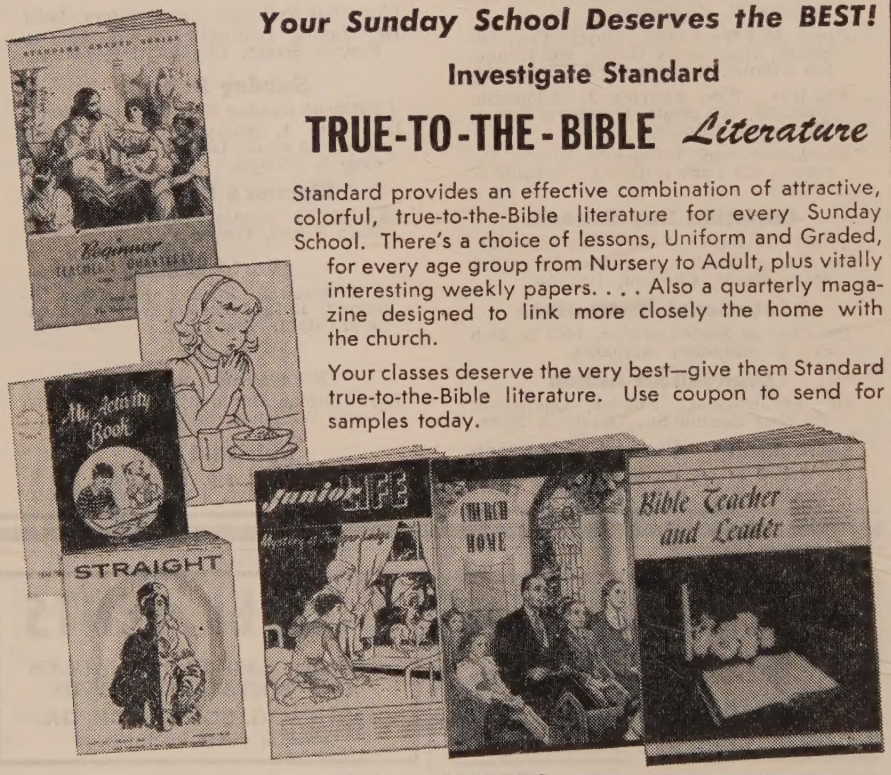

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